

48 hours in any week. The State Transport Authority of Delhi takes appropriate action as provided under law in cases where this rule is found to have been violated.

(e) No such specific complaint was brought to the notice of the Delhi Police during the last one year.

(f) Does not arise.

Police Force

4716. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the police forces in the country have become heavy with the large number of new posts of senior officers being created each year;

(b) whether the highly centralised nature of our police is responsible for the proliferation of posts of the higher level officials;

(c) whether the Government would appoint an expert group to consider a proposal to hand over local policing and local law and order responsibilities to the local bodies namely municipalities, municipal corporations, panchayat samitis etc. and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) According to information available, as on 31.12.1994, the actual strength of Civil Police, including District Armed Police, in the country was 9,50,382. The number of officers of the rank of SP/DIG/IG/DG among them was 2,866 only.

Police' being a State subject under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, it is for the respective State Governments to create posts at various levels depending on their requirements.

The Central Government is not considering appointment of an expert group as referred to in part (c) of the Question, as it is again for the State Governments to decide on the need for decentralisation, keeping in view the various statutes which presently empower the police to function.

Development of Para Military Forces during Punjab Elections

4717. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Jawans of different Para-Military Forces sent to Punjab during recently concluded Legislative Assembly elections;

(b) whether these forces were sent as per the demand of State Government;

(c) whether any complaint have been received against these forces; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) 150 Coys of Central Forces were made available to Government of Punjab for Assembly elections in the State. The quantum of Force was decided after consultation with the Election Commission of India and the State Government. No complaints have been received against these forces.

VIP Security

4718. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "VIP Security putting citizens safety at Peril" appearing in the "Indian Express", dated February 21, 1997;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the number of police personnel deployed for personal security of VIPs and others in Delhi at present;

(d) the annual expenditure incurred by the Government on this account during each of the last three years;

(e) the number of VIPs and others belonging to other States living in Delhi being provided personal security in Delhi;

(f) whether the Government have reviewed the threat aspect and the question of providing security to VIPs and others in Delhi; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India and as such the responsibility for providing security to the persons residing within their jurisdiction is that of the concerned State/UTs. As regards Delhi, applications made by various persons for providing personal security on various grounds are not vetted by the security agencies. Ideally, special security needs to be provided normally where the threat emanates from any terrorist organisation. In other circumstances, the requirement should generally be met by the normal police set up. The cases are constantly reviewed. At present, about 3617 Police personnel from Delhi Police and 2672 Police Personnel from Central Para Military Forces have been deployed for personal security of VIPs and others in Delhi.